

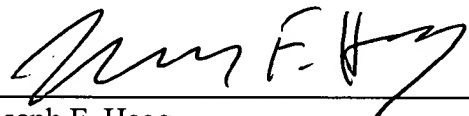
R E M A R K S

The present application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/028,781, which was allowed on October 24, 2000. Claims 1- 104 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer to the underlying subject matter. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of the original claims in this application and in other applications. Claims 105-123 have been added, and claims 105-123 are pending in this application. No new matter has been added.

Please charge any fees that may be required for this Response, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0271. Furthermore, should an extension of time be required, please grant a petition for any extension of time which may be required to make this Response timely, and please charge any fee for such an extension to Deposit Account No. 50-0271. A duplicate copy of this authorization is enclosed for such purposes.

Applicants respectfully request favorable consideration and early passage to issue of the present application. If there are any questions regarding the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney using the contact information provided below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date

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